

Richard Case Nagell was caught robbing a bank in Texas. He claimed he robbed the bank so that he would be in jail when JFK was assassinated, claiming prior knowledge of such a plot and attributing it to the CIA. There are some indications that he may have had such a connection but I am not aware of any proof of it. After his release from jail he was arrested in East Germany. His release and return then were handled by a Washington lawyer, Nacey New.

I believe the first alleged connection with the assassination attributed to Nagell was by Ramparts, whose records on the JFK assassination is of irresponsibility and sensationalism.

Thereafter he was interviewed as I recall often, from the Garrison office by an assistant DA Bill Martin and perhaps others. I am sure that Bud Fensterwald did and went for Nagell's story, perhaps Mark Lane also. Of maybe he was from Garrison when he did.

Nagell did survive the disintegration of an Electra plane near Baltimore, surviving as I recall a free fall of about 10,000 feet.

"Jim Rose" was involved in accrediting and feeding a fake book by SDECE, the French counterpart of the CIA, that Garrison originally understood was coming to him from the KGB. In fact, Garrison's activist supporters in the Los Angeles area had a code name for this deal, "the San Diego radio station." KGB was the call letters of the CBS affiliate there. I appeared on it.

(Garrison loved the book, an obvious fake having virtually nothing at all in it about the assassination. He persuaded the Frenchman who used the name Herve Lamarre and was in charge of that project to retitle it from "L'Amerique Brule" to "Farewell America."

Dick Russell was one of the earlier conspiracy-theorist writers, I do not now recall whether on The Village Voice, free-lancing or both. Years ago he was here but I have no recollection of his visit or what he then was writing. Or, with any clarity, what he had by then written.

He now claims to have substantiation for Nagell's story that I do not believe. He read from notes, roughly some of what I say in the memo he asked me to send him. Because that memo was to Garrison he could have gotten it from innumerable sources, Garrison's files were that open to anyone at all.

The Oswald part of what he is working on is that Oswald made an earlier trip to Mexico than in late September, 1963. Russell says it was in July or August. When I asked him if he was confusing this with a trip there by Kerry Thornley, who knew Oswald briefly when they were in the Marines, he said not.

Russell says his book will be published this fall by Carroll & Graf. Its most recent JFK assassination book is Harry Livingstone's High Treason. It also published Jim Marrs Crossfire, a compendium of all the nutty theories and one of the books used by Oliver Stone on his movie JFK.